



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

Olympic National Forest

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/olympic>



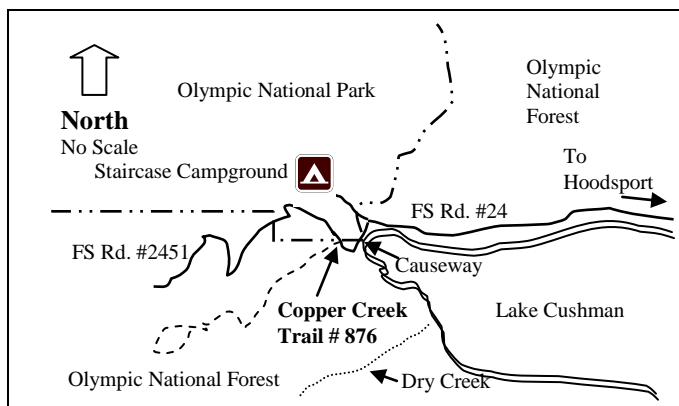
Copper Creek Trail #876

Hood Canal Ranger District – Quilcene Office
295142 Highway 101 S. P.O. Box 280
Quilcene, WA 98376 (360) 765-2200

Recommended Season
SPRING SUMMER FALL



ACCESS: Travel US Highway 101 to Hoodport. Turn onto SR 119, drive 9.0 miles to the junction with FS Road #24. Turn left, continue 6 miles to FS Road #2451. Turn left and cross the causeway. The trailhead is ½ mile on FS Road #2451, located on the left.



FACILITIES: There is limited roadside parking at the trailhead. Look for the trail sign on left side of road, and to the left of Copper Creek. There are no facilities at the trailhead. Toilets are available at Bear Gulch Picnic Area just beyond the 24/2451 road junction.

SETTING: This trail closely follows an old mine access trail, of which traces are still visible. According to geological records, mining activity dated prior to 1915, and the ore extracted was moderate grade manganese with some copper. The trail passes through, what many describe as a “classic” old growth forest with many large big-leaf maple, hemlock, true fir, Douglas fir, and cedar trees along the way. Many of the hemlocks are deformed as a result of a dwarf mistletoe infestation.

TRAIL INFORMATION: This is a steep trail that forms a short loop at the ridge top. At 0.2

miles the trail passes the Brown Mule mine site, then continues to follow Copper Creek canyon to the abandoned Apex Mine site at 1.4 miles. At 1.3 miles the trail branches and ascends to the ridge crest separating Copper and Elk Creek watersheds. At 1.9 miles the trail branches again, with both branches of the trail leading to the ridge crest. A “way trail” along the ridge connects these two branches to form a loop (the ridge leads toward Timber Mountain and Lightning Peak).

Destination	Miles	Elev.
Trailhead	0.0	800'
Brown Mule Mine site	0.2	1,000'
Ridge Trail branches	1.3	2,400'
Apex Mine site	.1	2,400
Ridge Loop Junction	1.9	2,900'
Ridge Crest (upper)	2.2	3,200'
Ridge Crest (lower)	2.5	3,000'
Round Trip	4.5	800'

OPPORTUNITIES: Day hiking, backpacking, wildlife observation, and scenery.

Practice LEAVE NO TRACE techniques during your hike.

CLOSURES: Motorized vehicles and bicycles prohibited.

TOPO MAPS: Mt. Skokomish-Lake Cushman Custom Correct Map or Mt. Tebo USGS Quad.

PASS NOT REQUIRED: A Recreation Pass is **NOT REQUIRED** at this trailhead.